WILDFLOWER SCANS

http://wildflowerscans.wordpress.com

SUMIKKO NO SORA-SAN

volume 2 chapter 9

CREDITS

TRANSLATING	★★★	PENELOPE LANE
EDITING	★★★	ILY [illegible]SNEAL
TYPESETTING	★★★	RUBY WINTER
PROOFREADING	★★★	ILY [illegible]STIN A

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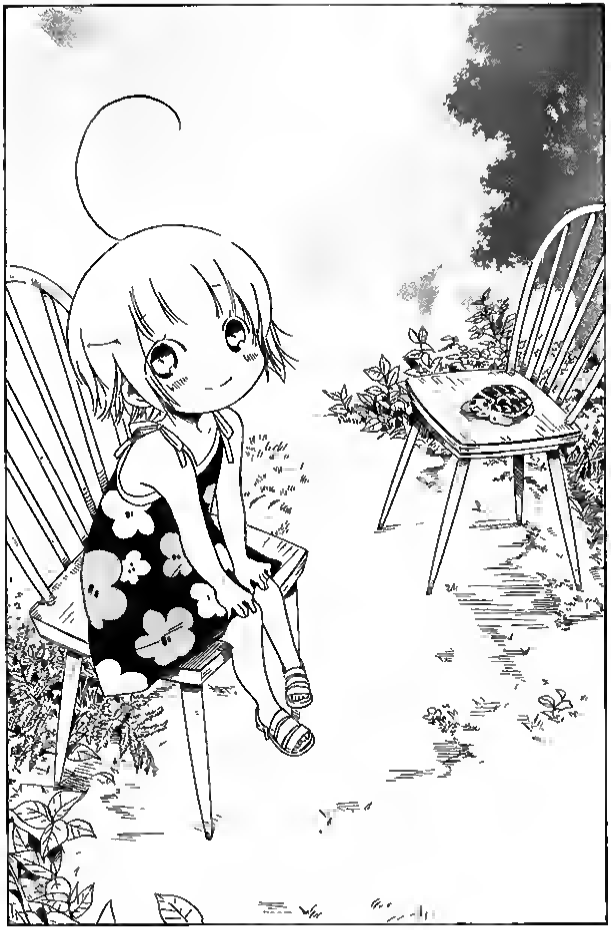
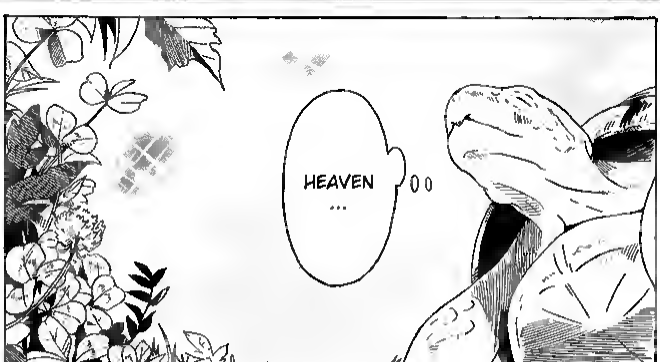


CHAPTER ⑨ HAPPINESS

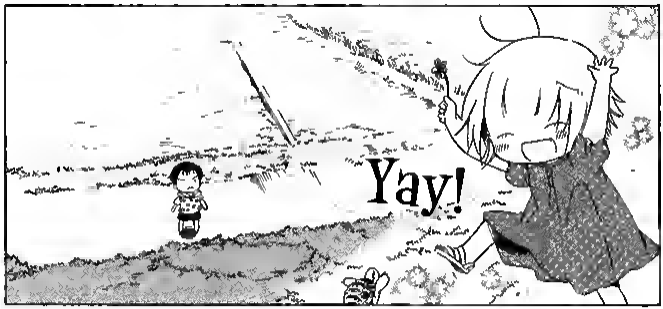
EVEN IN THE SUMMER, HERE IN THE LAND OF GREECE...
THE SCENERY IS FILLED, AS FAR AS THE EYE CAN SEE, WITH PLATO'S FOOD.

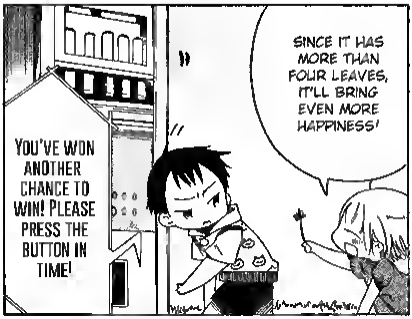

HEAVEN ...

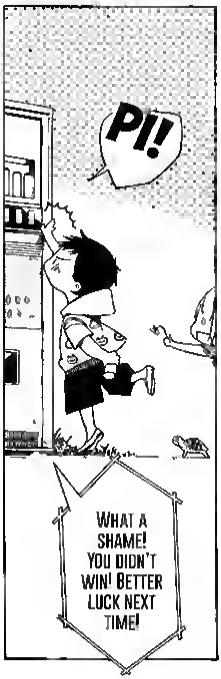
VETCH,
CIR-SIUM,
FLEA-BANE,
CLOVER ...
CLOVER ...
CLOVER ...
AND CLO-VERS.
CLOVER ...
HM ?

DOES SENSEI EAT CLOVERS, TOO?
The ones facing the sun are a bit tastier
THAT'S NOT IT, PLATO. SORA-SAN IS LOOKING FOR A FOUR-LEAF CLOVER
SERIOUS
THE LOOK ON SOCRATES -SENSEI'S FACE AS SHE RUMMAGES THROUGH THE FIELDS...
PLATO CANNOT FATHOM IT.
YOU SEE, NORMAL CLOVERS HAVE ONLY THREE LEAVES
BUT SORA-SAN HEARD THAT SOMETIMES THERE ARE ONES WITH *FOUR* LEAVES
WHOEVER FINDS ONE WILL FIND HAPPINESS.
FIND HAPPI-NESS ...?
CHEW CHEW
.....

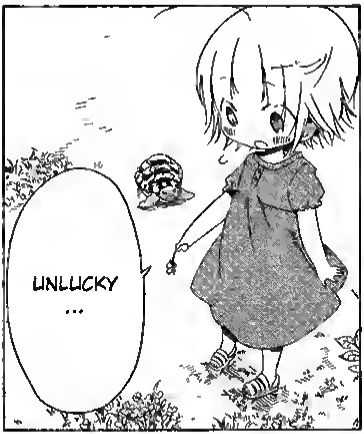
THIS ONE IS AMAZING!
THIS ONE HAS SEVEN LEAVES! I FOUND A SEVEN-LEAF CLOVER!!
EH?
THIS IS...
WOW! AMAZ-ING!

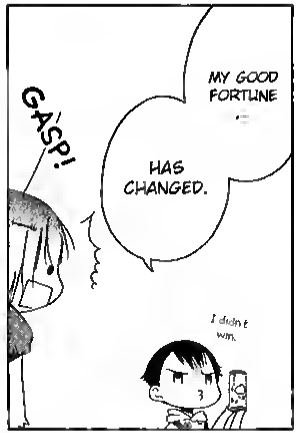

Yay!


YOU'VE WON ANOTHER CHANCE TO WIN! PLEASE PRESS THE BUTTON IN TIME!
SINCE IT HAS MORE THAN FOUR LEAVES, IT'LL BRING EVEN MORE HAPPINESS!
SORA-SAN FOUND A SEVEN-LEAF CLOVER!
AH! SEI-CHAN! LOOK!


PI!!
WHAT A SHAME! YOU DIDN'T WIN! BETTER LUCK NEXT TIME!

FINDING A CLOVER WITH MORE THAN FOUR LEAVES IS UNLUCKY.

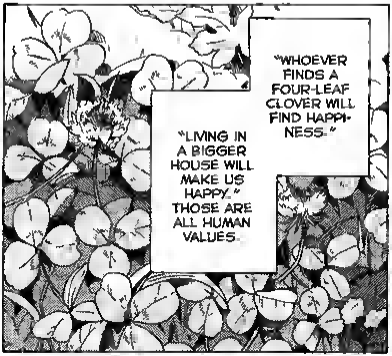

UNLUCKY
...


GASP!
MY GOOD FORTUNE
HAS CHANGED.
I didn't win.

THERE'S NO NEED
WHEN WE FIND IT, WE WILL SHOW YOU!
THEN WE'LL LOOK AGAIN! SORA-SAN WILL FIND A FOUR-LEAF CLOVER!

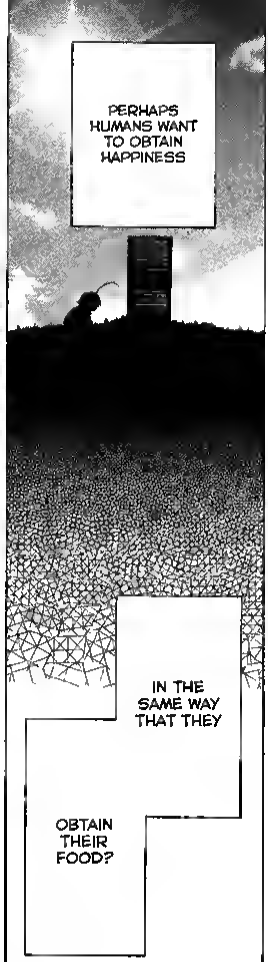
SHOWING SOMEONE A FOUR-LEAF CLOVER YOU FOUND...
...IS UNLUCKY TOO.

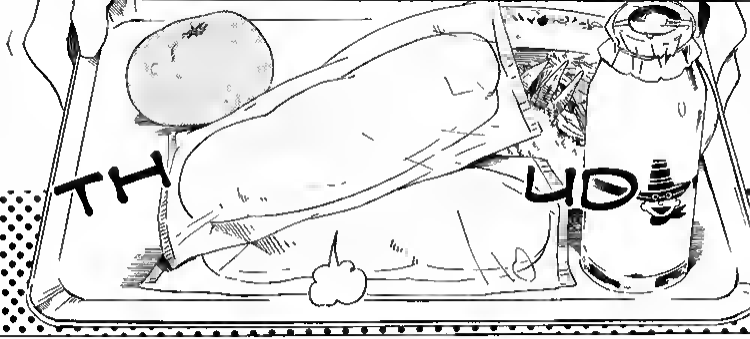
AHH, SENSEI.
THIS IS ALL SUPER-STITION.
A Although it's true that you're currently unhappy...
SEEING SENSEI'S BACK, PLATO WONDERED...
FOUR-LEAF CLOVER
FOUR-LEAF CLOVER


"WHOEVER FINDS A FOUR-LEAF CLOVER WILL FIND HAPPINESS."
"LIVING IN A BIGGER HOUSE WILL MAKE US HAPPY." THOSE ARE ALL HUMAN VALUES.

WHERE IS HAPPINESS? HAVE HUMANS PREPARED IT IN READY-MADE JARS,
AND ARE THEY AVAILABLE ON DISPLAY LIKE AT A SUPERMARKET?

FOR HUMANS, OBTAINING HAPPINESS IS LIKE PURCHASING FOOD FROM A STORE.


PERHAPS HUMANS WANT TO OBTAIN HAPPINESS
IN THE SAME WAY THAT THEY
OBTAIN THEIR FOOD?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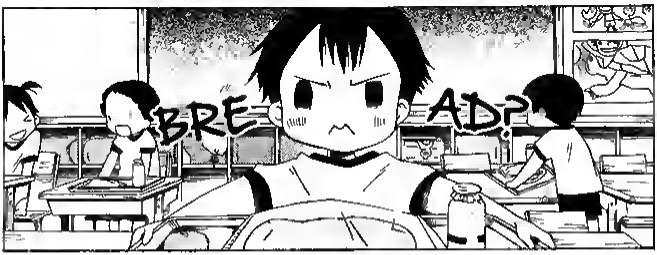

BRE
AD?

SORA-SAN IS AWAY TODAY BECAUSE SHE HAS A COLD.

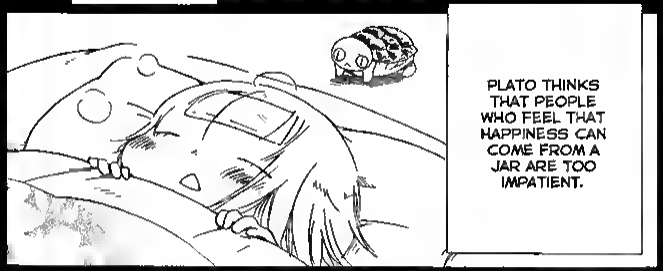
KUKAKI BAKERY
SENSEI, I ALREADY HAVE ONE...

SEIJI-KUN, WHEN YOU GO HOME TODAY, COULD YOU BRING THIS TO HER?
I KNOW. THIS ONE IS FOR SORA-SAN

IT WASN'T A CURSE. I ACTUALLY BUMPED INTO HER YESTERDAY.
IT WAS VERY LATE, BUT SHE WAS OUTSIDE IN TOO THIN CLOTHES.

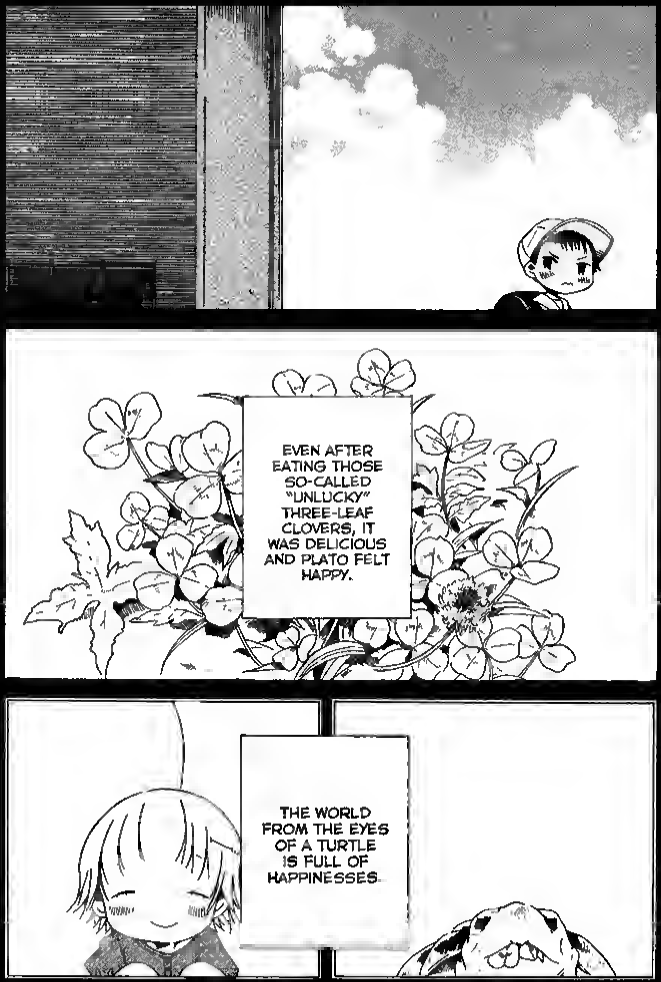
AS I THOUGHT...
IT'S THE CURSE OF THE SEVEN-LEAF CLOVER...
CURSE?
*SFX: chatter

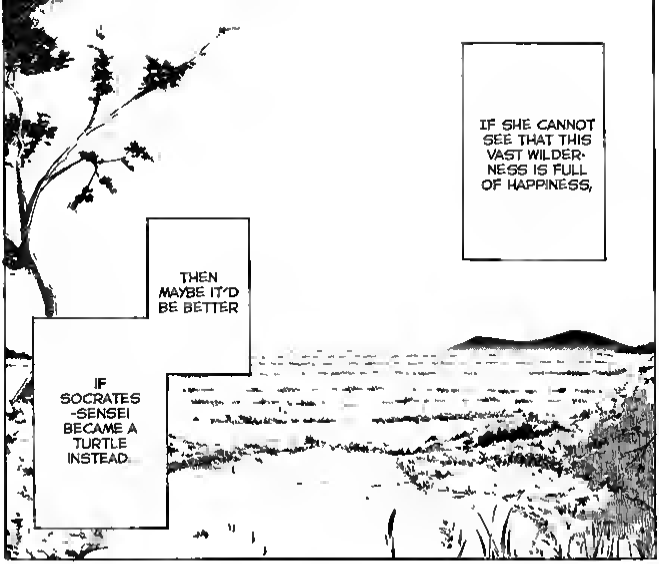
WHEN I ASKED HER, SHE SAID SHE WAS LOOKING FOR A FOUR-LEAF CLOVER.
I DON'T REALLY KNOW IF THIS IS GOOD OR BAD.

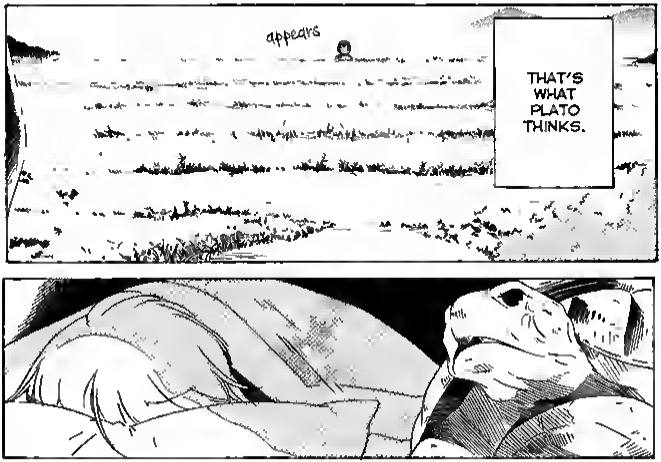

PLATO THINKS THAT PEOPLE WHO FEEL THAT HAPPINESS CAN COME FROM A JAR ARE TOO IMPATIENT.

GOD ASKED SORA-SAN THIS BEFORE!
WASN'T IT LONELY WITHOUT MOM AND DAD?
DOES BEING LONELY MEAN THAT YOU'RE UNHAPPY?
Why does she want a four leaf clover so badly?
I CANNOT ACCEPT OR UNDERSTAND THIS PAIN.
DOESN'T FEEL UNHAPPY AT ALL
BUT SORA-SAN
I CAN ONLY IMAGINE WHAT HUMAN SUFFERING FEELS LIKE

IF OTHERS THINK YOU'RE UNFORTUNATE, THEN YOU'LL START TO FEEL THAT WAY TOO.
BUT WHETHER THE OPPOSITE OF SADNESS IS HAPPINESS OR JOY,
WHAT IT IS, WHO IT BELONGS TO. THESE ARE ALL THINGS THAT OTHERS CAN'T MEASURE.
YOU'LL START TO THINK ABOUT HOW NICE IT'D BE TO BE HAPPY.

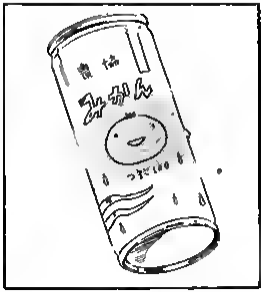

EVEN AFTER EATING THOSE SO-CALLED "UNLUCKY" THREE-LEAF CLOVERS, IT WAS DELICIOUS AND PLATO FELT HAPPY.
THE WORLD FROM THE EYES OF A TURTLE IS FULL OF HAPPINESSES.


IF SHE CANNOT SEE THAT THIS VAST WILDERNESS IS FULL OF HAPPINESS,
THEN MAYBE IT'D BE BETTER
IF SOCRATES-SENSEI BECAME A TURTLE INSTEAD.

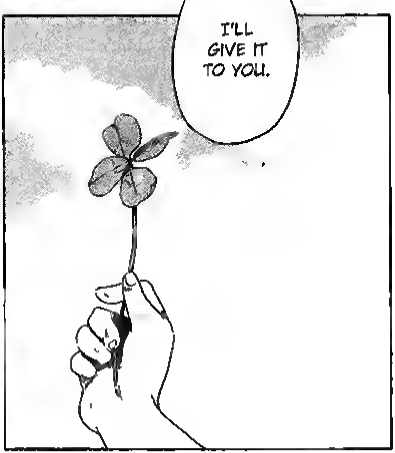

appears
THAT'S WHAT PLATO THINKS.

YOUR BREAD
I'VE BROUGHT IT
SE!-CHAN! YOU CAME TO VISIT SORA-SAN!
WHAT A NASAL VOICE!
I CAME TO GIVE YOU
THE BREAD WE HAD FOR LUNCH
AND THE PRINTOUTS FROM SCHOOL.
AND...

THE ONE I GOT YESTERDAY,
YOU CAN HAVE IT.

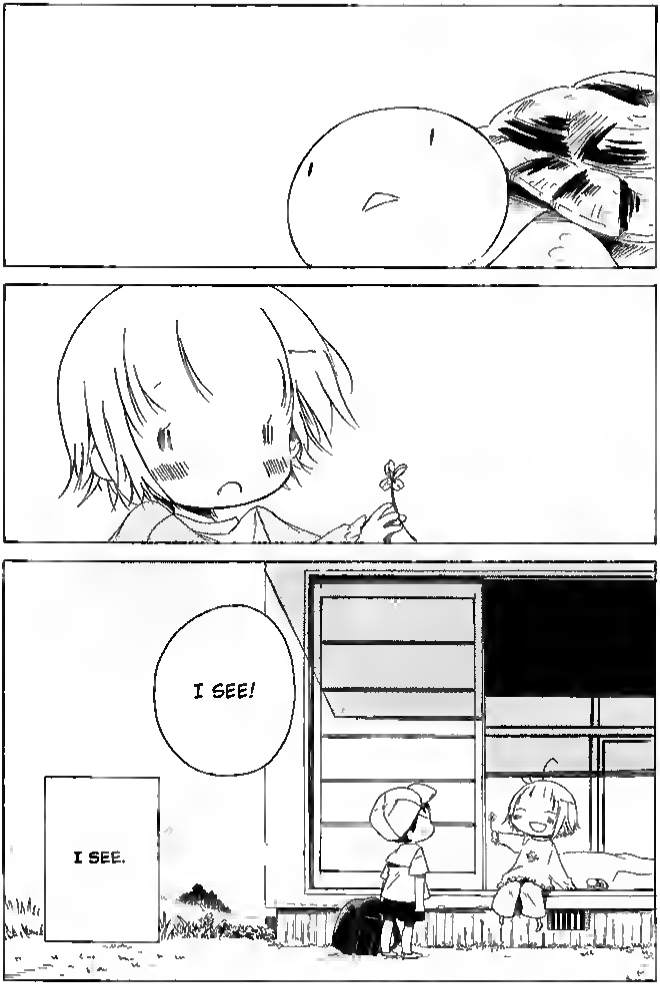


I ALSO FOUND THIS.

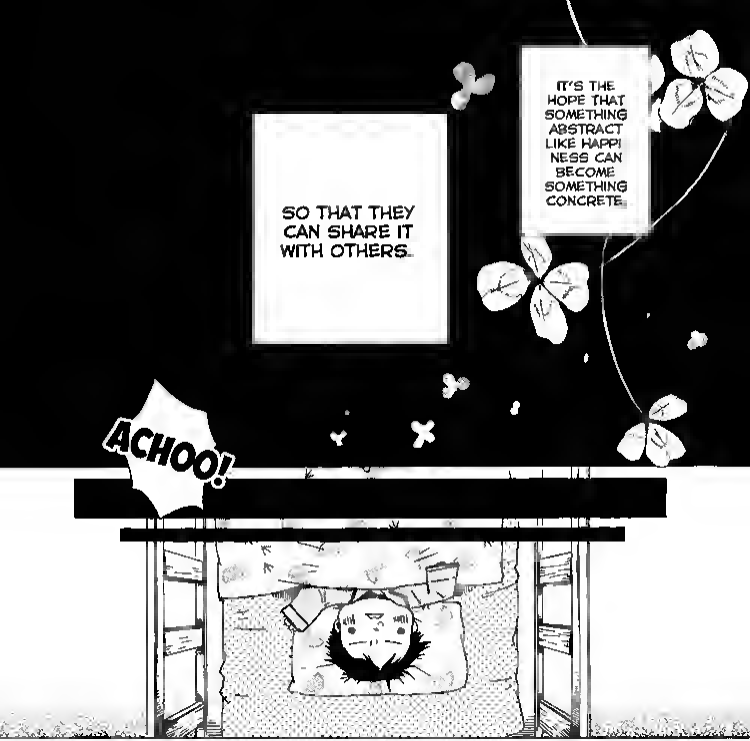

I'LL GIVE IT TO YOU.

OR ELSE SEI-CHAN WILL BE UNLUCKY!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING..?
SORA -SAN DIDN'T SEE ANY-THING!
SORA-SAN, I'VE THOUGHT ABOUT IT.
IT'S OKAY.

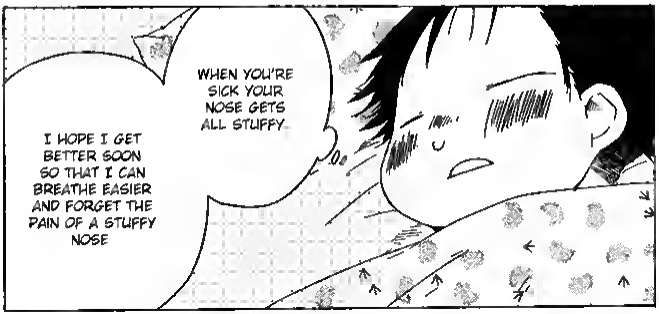
IF NOT KEEPING IT A SECRET MAKES IT UNLUCKY,
THEN WHY DON'T WE JUST KEEP IT A SECRET BETWEEN THE TWO OF US?

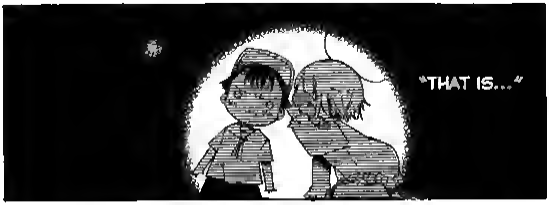

I SEE!
I SEE.

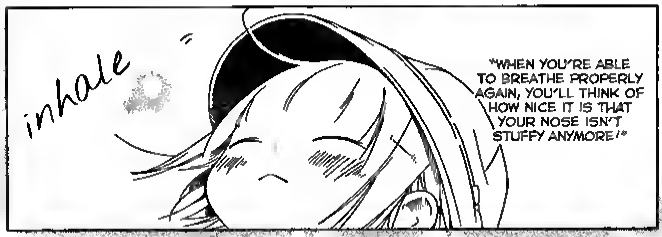
PLATO UNDERSTANDS A LITTLE NOW...
WHY PEOPLE TREAT HAPPINESS LIKE SOMETHING THAT CAN BE BOUGHT FROM A SUPERMARKET,
OR WHY THEY THINK OBTAINING HAPPINESS IS THE SAME AS GETTING SOMETHING TO EAT.
?
THEN SORA -SAN WILL SHARE SOMETHING WITH SEI-CHAN TOO!
WELL, SORA -SAN
FOUND A WAY TO BE HAPPY
WITHOUT EVEN NEEDING A FOUR LEAF CLOVER!
PERHAPS,
THAT IS...


IT'S THE HOPE THAT SOMETHING ABSTRACT LIKE HAPPINESS CAN BECOME SOMETHING CONCRETE.
SO THAT THEY CAN SHARE IT WITH OTHERS.
ACHOO!

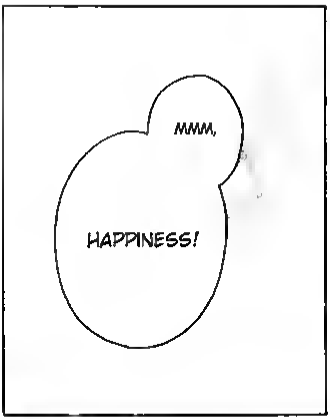
SEI-CHAN, GET UP. IT'S TIME FOR SCHOOL.
I DON'T FEEL SO GOOD TODAY.
WHAT A NASAL VOICE!
I caught it.


WHEN YOU'RE SICK YOUR NOSE GETS ALL STUFFY
I HOPE I GET BETTER SOON SO THAT I CAN BREATHE EASIER AND FORGET THE PAIN OF A STUFFY NOSE


"THAT IS..."


inhale
"WHEN YOU'RE ABLE TO BREATHE PROPERLY AGAIN, YOU'LL THINK OF HOW NICE IT IS THAT YOUR NOSE ISN'T STUFFY ANYMORE!"

AHHH~



The thing called Happiness is not something that can be known alone!

-Aleksei Arbuzov (1908-1986) From "An Irkutsk Story"